



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE
UNIT 29351
APO AE 09014-9351

AEMD

12 May 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders of USAREUR Major Subordinate Commands, USAREUR Specialized Commands, and United States Army Garrisons

SUBJECT: Army in Europe Hearing Program

This memorandum expires in 1 year.

1. Supersession. This memorandum supersedes memorandum, USAREUR, AEMD, 25 March 2013, subject as above.

2. References.

- a. AR 40-5, Preventive Medicine.
- b. AR 385-10, The Army Safety Program.
- c. DA Pamphlet 40-501, Hearing Conservation Program.
- d. U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School Special Text 4-02.501, Army Hearing Program.

3. Applicability. This policy applies to all Army in Europe personnel who live and work in the USAREUR area of responsibility.

4. General. Noise is the most common health hazard in USAREUR for both military and civilian personnel. Continuous exposure to intense noise (for example, aircraft and tactical vehicle engines, weapons fire) will cause permanent hearing loss. Without an effective hearing conservation program, work safety and mission performance will both be compromised.

5. Policy. Commanders must support the critical elements of the Army Hearing Program by doing the following:

- a. Appoint, in writing, a hearing program officer (HPO) who is a staff sergeant or above at each brigade, battalion, and geographically dispersed company-level unit.
- b. Ensure their unit completes the annual hearing education course.
- c. Provide appropriate hearing protection to all Soldiers and Civilian employees and training to those personnel on proper maintenance and use of hearing-protection devices.

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d. Ensure unit personnel complete all required annual, pre- and post-deployment, and follow-up hearing tests.

e. Ensure that unit Soldiers wear their earplug carrying case with earplugs on the front right belt loop of their Army combat uniform.

6. Procedures. Further details about the Army Hearing Program and the procedural requirements for commanders and HPOs to establish an effective unit hearing program are outlined in the references listed in [paragraph 1](#).



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Commanding